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Amendment to the Specification:

On page 6, in the paragraph on lines 38-39, the text is amended as follows:

--Figure 1 shows the derived amino acid sequence of a native sequence DcR3 (SEQ ID NO:1). --

On page 6, in the paragraph on lines 41-42, the text is amended as follows:

--Figure 2 shows the nucleotide sequence of a native sequence DcR3 cDNA (SEQ ID NO:2). --

On page 7, in the paragraph on lines 6-7, the text is amended as follows:

--Figure 5 shows an alignment of DcR3 (SEQ ID NO:1) and human TNFR2 (hTNFR2) (SEQ ID NO:17). Four cysteine rich domains (CRD) are shown as CRD1, CRD2, CRD3, and CRD4. --

On page 7, in the paragraph on lines 9-10, the text is amended as follows:

--Figure 6 shows an alignment of DcR3 (SEQ ID NO:3) and human OPG (SEQ ID NO:18). Four cysteine rich domains are identified as CRD1, CRD2, CRD3, and CRD4. --

On pages 27-28, in the paragraph on lines 34-42 and lines 1-6, the text is amended as follows:

--As described in the Examples below, anti-DcR3 monoclonal antibodies have been prepared. Several of these antibodies, referred to as 4C4.1.4; 5C4.14.7; 11C5.2.8; 8D3.1.5; and 4B7.1.1 have been deposited with ATCC and have been assigned deposit accession numbers HB-12573, HB-12574, HB-12572, HB-12571, and HB-12575, respectively, In one embodiment, the monoclonal antibodies of the invention will have the same biological characteristics as one or more of the antibodies secreted by the hybridoma cell lines deposited under accession numbers HB-12573, HB-12574, HB-12572, HB-12571 or HB-12575. The term "biological characteristics" is used to refer to the *in vitro* and or *in vivo* activities or properties of the monoclonal antibodies, such as the

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ability to bind to DcR3 or to substantially block Fas ligand/DcR3 binding. Optionally, the monoclonal antibody will bind to the same epitope as at least one of the antibodies specifically referred to above. Such epitope binding can be determined by conducting various assays, like those described herein and in the examples.—

On page 51, in the paragraph on lines 2-16, the text has been amended as follows:

-- Deposit of Material

The following materials have been deposited with the American Type Culture Collection, 10801 University Blvd., Manassas, Virginia USA (ATCC):

<u>Material</u>	ATCC Dep. No.	Deposit Date
DNA30942-1134	209254	Sept. 16, 1997
4C4.1.4	<u>HB-12573</u>	Sept. <u>18</u> , 1998
5C4.14.7	<u>HB-12574</u>	Sept. <u>18</u> , 1998
11C5.2.8	<u>HB-12572</u>	Sept. <u>18</u> , 1998
8D3.1.5	<u>HB-12571</u>	Sept. <u>18</u> , 1998
4B7.1.1	HB-12575	Sept. <u>18</u> , 1998